

Southeast News

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UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

VOLUME 19

FEBRUARY 1971

NUMBER 4

"Cry Out: Responsibility Of-For Youth" Theme Of SEC Youth Annual Meeting

The 1971 Annual Meeting of SEC YOUTH will be an event "with a difference"!

Focusing on the 1970-71 theme: "Cry Out: Responsibility of/for Youth", senior high youth and adults will share concerns of *Communication* through small groups, "coffee house" experiences, worship, recreation, music and YOU NAME IT.

One difference is that the event will take place at Camp Sumatanga, near Gallant, Alabama, which boasts a large, nearly-new heated lodge with several meeting rooms, plenty of sleeping accommodations, and even inside plumbing! Everyone can stay at the Lodge, eliminating problems of home and motel housing. Since the camp is off by itself, there should be no outside distractions.

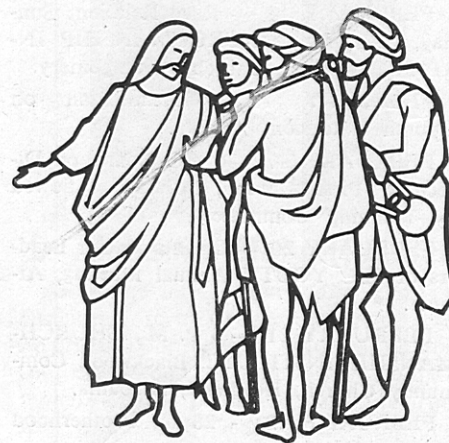
DATES: Friday evening, after supper, March 12, through Sunday noon dinner, March 14.

COST: \$10 per person (youth or adult).

This includes two nights and five meals. HOUSING is in the large Lodge, with five persons to each room. All indoor activities are under the same roof. If weather permits, we expect to allow time for outdoor recreation. WHAT TO BRING: Blankets, sheets, pillow and case (if needed)—or sleeping bag; towels and soap. Informal clothing is in order. Each youth delegation should have a responsible and interested adult along.

Several local youth groups have been asked to provide parts of the program. Officers and others will lead the small groups.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS A MUST! We are figuring close financially so as to keep the cost at a minimum. Check with your minister, church clerk or youth advisor for registration blanks and road maps. If there is a shortage, either duplicate more, or write for additional copies to the Southeast Conference, P. O. Box 29883, Atlanta, Ga. 30329.



LENT

The Lenten season, beginning with Ash Wednesday, Feb. 24, 1971, and climaxing with Easter, should have daily prayer and meditation on the part of people who are followers of Jesus. The theme for the Lenten Devotion, called *The Fellowship of Prayer*, is "Looking at Jesus."

This Lenten itinerary begins with the story of Jesus wrestling out the way of His ministry in the wilderness, and then follows Him through some classic episodes of spiritual and physical healing that came out of that way. About the last half is devoted to verses from His final trip to Jerusalem, His last week of human life, and the final hours of His passion and death.

The "Fellowship of Prayer" can be ordered at 15c per copy, by ordering from the Eden Publishing House, 1724 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Missouri 63103. Our pastors should have this information on their desk, and will be glad to order it for the people of our churches.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

In partial fulfillment of the Fifth General Synod's (1965) action, the Executive Council of the United Church of Christ has called upon all members, ministers and leaders to study and share responsibility in suggesting revisions of the First Draft (published under the title, *A Plan of Union*) of the Consultation on Church Union.

The Administrative Committee, acting for the Executive Council, urges each congregation to study the plan in local ecumenical settings wherever possible and propose its revisions so that rewriting of the plan will take "into full account the reactions and concerns of members of the United Church of Christ. It further requests that copies of all reactions and proposals for revision forwarded to the Consultation on Church Union be sent to the Office of the (U.C.C.) President for the information of the Executive Council."

Earliest termination date for the discussion process at the local level will be June 1, 1972. After that the revised plan will be circulated so that again there can be

URGES COCU STUDY

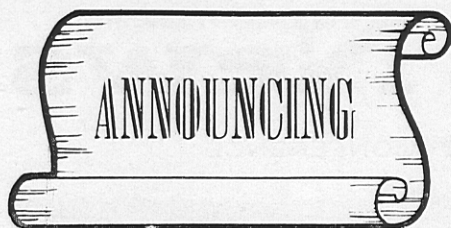
widespread discussion in the Church before the General Synod acts on the plan. It is not likely that such a plan could be submitted to the General Synod before 1975.

Even then, if the plan is adopted by the General Synod, this action will be submitted to the Conferences for ratification. If ratification is given by two-thirds of the Conferences, each congregation will then be asked to decide whether to become a part of the new denomination, unless by prior action it has authorized its Conference or the General Synod to vote for it.

Local congregations and members are given opportunity for full participation at four significant points: 1. The process of study and revision of *A Plan of Union* now going on. 2. Discussion of the revised plan both at the congregational and the Conference levels before General Synod action is taken. 3. If the General Synod acts to submit the plan to the Conferences for ratification, the congregation's representatives will vote at the Conference meet-

ing. 4. Once ratification has occurred, the congregation will then vote on whether it wishes to enter into the new church.

The recent communication from the Administrative Committee, Executive Council, is reassuring: "This procedure safeguards the freedom of each local congregation as guaranteed by the United Church of Christ Constitution. We encourage every congregation to use its freedom responsibly by sharing fully in the study and revision process."



... a column of reminders to help you with your planning

FEBRUARY 14 — Race Relations Sunday. 3 P. M., CHURCHMANSHIP INSTITUTE, First Church, Montgomery.

FEBRUARY 16 — Commission on Church Extension, Atlanta.

FEBRUARY 17 — SEC Board of Directors, First Church, Atlanta, followed by Planning Committee.

FEBRUARY 20 — Orientation for Leaders of SEC YOUTH Annual Meeting, Atlanta.

FEBRUARY 21 — 3 P. M., CHURCHMANSHIP INSTITUTE, Blackwood Community Church, Headland, Alabama.

FEBRUARY 21 - 28 — Brotherhood Week.

FEBRUARY 24 — ASH WEDNESDAY, beginning of Lent.

MARCH 5 — WORLD DAY OF PRAYER.

MARCH 12, 13, and 14 — SEC YOUTH Annual Meeting. Registration deadline February 27.

MARCH 21 — "ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING."

APRIL 4 — Palm Sunday.

APRIL 11 — Easter Day.

APRIL 25 — National Christian College Day. Also Consultation on Church Union Day.

JUNE 12 and 13 — ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE, Nashville, Tenn.

Workshop And Institute Announced

Two unusual opportunities for Christian education personnel have been announced for the Atlanta area (UCC leaders are welcome from all parts of the Southeast Conference).

An INSTROTEACH WORKSHOP, to be offered at Columbia Seminary late in March, will be led by Dr. Locke E. Bowman, "instigator of INTROTEACH." INSTROTEACH is a Workshop "in the evaluation of teaching effectiveness in the church ... for the improvement of instruction in the ... classrooms." It is essentially a

Noles Ordination Held

Sunday, January 10, 1971, the Rev. Warner D. Noles was ordained into the ministry in an impressive service at Columbus First Church.

Moderator Allen B Hollis, Jr. called the Association Ecclesiastical Council to order at 3 P. M. Following recognition of the proper calls and credentials, the Council heard the candidate present statements concerning his Christian faith and experience.

The Service of Ordination was opened with a prelude by Miss Elaine Lloyd, organist. The Rev. John E. Rhodes gave the Call to Worship. Following the processional hymn, the Rev. Joe A. French delivered the Invocation and Lord's Prayer. Scripture lessons were read from the Old and New Testaments by the Rev. A. R. Van Cleave and the Rev. A. H. Bullard respectively. The Rev. Mr. Noles presented an original paraphrase of I Corinthians 13.

The Rev. W. Waiter Hall gave the Statement to the People, followed by the Vows of Ordination administered by the Rev. Mr. Hollis. The Prayer of Ordination and the Laying on of Hands were conducted by the Rev. Warren Blankenhorn. After the declaration that the office was conferred and the welcome into the ministry, the closing hymn "Jesus Calls Us" was sung, and the Rev. Warner D. Noles pronounced the benediction.

At a reception following in the Fellowship Hall of First Church, friends extended good wishes to the Noles family.

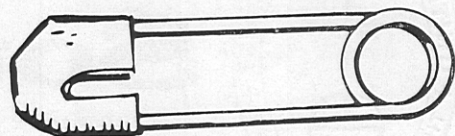
We welcome "Buddy", Mary, and their young son back to the Southeast Conference. Several years ago he served various churches in Alabama before continuing his education at Bangor Seminary, Maine. Having completed his theological training, he is working towards his degree at Columbus College, while Mary teaches school.

Approximately fifty copies of the 1935 edition of *Pilgrim Hymnal* are in the Southeast Conference office for any congregation which may want them. "They are in fair condition," says the Conference Minister.

program of teacher improvement.

A SKILL INSTITUTE, also to be led by Dr. Bowman at Columbia Seminary, will enable participants to observe children and youth being taught and to engage in practice teaching.

Registration is limited. For further information contact Emilie Pitcock at the Conference office.



Births

To Rev. and Mrs. Robert W. (Rose) Boston, Charleston, S. C., a son, Richard, December 18, 1970. The Bostons are serving Circular Church, Charleston, in a joint ministry involving the United Church of Christ and the United Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

To Rev. and Mrs. John W. (Eloise) Wilder, Sanford, N. C., a son, Brent Williams, January 1, 1971. Although the Wilders now serve Shallow Well U.C.C. Church in the Southern Conference, they are remembered by many friends in the Southeast Conference for having served the Mt. Olive Church, Tallassee, Ala.

We congratulate both families on these happily-received additions.



New Hope And Freedom In Appalachia

Wood is an abundant natural resource in the mountain country of Appalachia. Here, Wiley Blevins, a deaf mute who lives alone in a tiny mountain community in western North Carolina, cuts wood to make rocking chairs, the sale of which provides him employment.

The Commission on Religion in Appalachia (CORA), which is supported by seventeen denominations — including the U. C. C. — and eleven state councils of churches, as well as by secular groups, enables poor people to create, own, manage, and work in community corporations that are "home-grown from the natural resources and from their natural abilities." The result: new hope and new freedom through power and money.



Left to right: Larry Crumpton, Roger Loosier, Theo Gibson, Layton Wilson, Mrs. Kathryn Wilson, Roy Baine.

Multiple Ordination In North Alabama

Old Liberty Grove Church, Town Creek, Alabama, was the setting for the Ordination to the Christian Ministry of six candidates (pictured above), Sunday afternoon, January 3, 1971. The five men and one woman have been meeting for study with Dr. Guy Colbert of Hartselle, Ala., who serves as Area Minister.

In addition to the candidates, other participants included: Rev. Ernest Shelton, Rev. Marvin Waugh, Rev. George Washington, Rev. Robert Shelton, Rev. Cecil Pratt, Dr. Colbert, and Dr. W. J. Andes, Conference Minister.

The ordination was concluded with Holy Communion administered by Rev. Mr. Washington and Dr. Colbert.

How To Add Books To Church Libraries

You can add 200,000 books to your church's library by utilizing the resources of the Congregational Library, 14 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass. 02108.

Serving our pastors and lay people all over the country by mail, the library has not only old volumes, but also the newest and best items on a great variety of subjects.

A bulletin published three times a year may be had for the asking.

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Todd Church Reports

The Todd Church in Shawmut, Ala., reports five things that they can be grateful for as the new year begins:

1. Fifteen people came into the fellowship of the church during 1970.

2. The offerings have exceeded all previous offerings.

3. They have been able to help more people than any other previous year.

4. One of their members, Don Whitehead, has been called of God to preach His gospel.

5. Others have been blessed both physically and spiritually.

Not only has the Todd Church provided \$500 to the Samaritan Fund, to help those who may be in need in Roanoke, Alabama, but the church is preparing now to help the Lowell Church raise some funds in order to keep it in operation as well as to provide a real witness through the ministry of Rev. Ralph Worley, pastor. When the mill closed, the church had no choice except to cut the expenses, including the salary of their pastor. Others of us are trying to help the Lowell Church keep the salary up for Mr. Worley.

The Brooklawn Home for Children, in Kentucky, expressed appreciation to the Todd Church for the box of articles that the church sent to the children. In addition to this, the Todd Church sends each year \$104.00 to the Dean Van Cleave Scholarship Fund, Southern Union Junior College. This year the scholarship award has gone to a young girl from Lineville, Ala., whose parents are deceased. She is an "A" student who also helps two younger sisters so that they also will be able to continue their education.

The Todd Church has been eager to serve people around the earth, and has provided funds and other benefits for people who are caught in earthquakes, fires, and other troubles

— William Hodnett, Pastor

C. C. S. A. Announces Newsletter

Mr. Tilford E. Dudley announces the availability of **The Report**, a mimeographed newsletter covering actions and trends in Washington, D. C., and activities of the United Church of Christ there.

Published by the Council for Christian Social Action, **The Report** is a two- to four-page paper costing \$1.00 per year.

Churches are encouraged to offer



S. Alabama Clubs Honored

A recent letter from Miss Dora C. Brackin, former secretary of the Southeast Conference, informs us that the Blackwood Community Club, of which she is president, was awarded first prize for Community Improvement in a 17-county contest of the Alabama Extension Department. Three members of the Blackwood Club attended the award banquet held at Auburn University recently: Miss Brackin and Misses Lynn and Rhonda Faison.

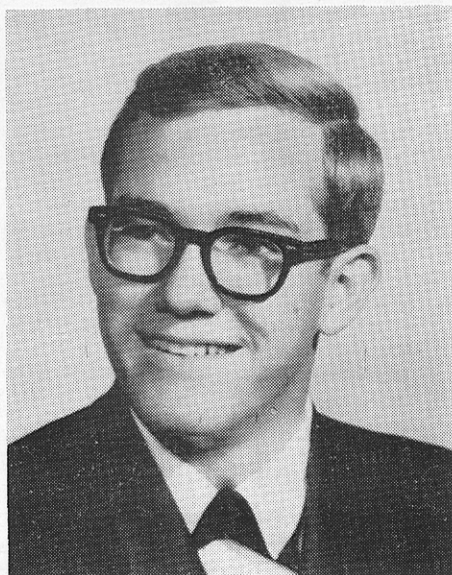
According to James H. Estes, Extension Farm Agent, "Blackwood is an active community group. They have a monthly meeting and program at the community house. They do a good job of public relations in regard to surrounding communities by inviting various civic groups and business organizations to their community for suppers. They work together as a group to achieve goals of interest to the entire community. The youth take an active part, and often the leading role, in many of the community projects."

It is interesting to note that the Antioch Community Club, Andalusia, of which Mr. Albert Baisden is president, won first place in Home Development.

Miss Dora Brackin is an active member of Blackwood Community Church, and Mr. Baisden is an officer of the Antioch Church. We are proud of these busy community-involved lay people.

subscription opportunities to members who would benefit from a communique of this type. Send \$1.00 and name and address to: Mr. Tilford E. Dudley, Council for Christian Social Action, 110 Maryland Ave., N. E., Washington, D. C. 20002.

NEWS OF CHURCHES OF THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE



Larry Woolbright Speaks At Bonanza

"Is Winning Stressed Too Much Today for Our Children?" was the topic of a message delivered by Larry Woolbright at Bonanza United Church of Christ, Jonesboro, Ga., January 3. Directing his concern to Little League sports, Larry asked every parent to take a serious look at the intentions of the program to be sure they are really for the good and fun of the children. Men of the church were in charge of the service in the absence of the vacationing pastor, Rev. L. Floyd Carmack.

A "prediction box" has been placed at the church to be used by people who want to foretell the events of 1971 in all fields. At the year's end the box will be opened to expose the accuracy of the "would-be" prophecies.

— Lorelei Bonner

Summer Events Scheduled

Begin now to make plans for three Christian education events for the summer of 1971.

SYNOD SCHOOL OF THE MID SOUTH, June 20-25, at Maryville College, Tenn., will provide several outstanding seminars, workshops, an all-school Convocation, evening "rap" session, as well as Vacation Church School for children.

The LEADERSHIP SCHOOL at Boggs Academy, Keysville, Ga., is another excellent opportunity to sharpen skills in Christian witness as various groups encoun-

Central Church Honors Mr. James H. McDaniel

Mr. James H. McDaniel, charter member of Central Congregational Church, Atlanta, Georgia, was guest of honor at a covered-dish dinner on Saturday evening, January 16. "Mr. Mac," who is Custodian of the church, is part of all the activities that take place: getting the church ready, making coffee, regulating the heat, air and ventilation as well as preparing whatever rooms are needed. One of the largest crowds ever to assemble at Central Church came to honor him. Members of his family were special guests, including his daughter from Virginia and his 91-year-old sister.

Ron Autry, master of ceremonies, introduced individuals and groups from the church who presented skits, songs, comedy, speeches and gifts. Participation included children, youth, and adults, as well as the pastor, Rev. Frederick Meyer, and members of the Trustees. The climax came when "Mr. Mac" was presented an easy chair and a portable color TV set, along with a number of smaller gifts. In his speech of appreciation, "Mr. Mac" said: "The church is a family of families; it is not a building or the furnishings, but people, and it is you, the people, whom I love."

This was one affair when "Mr. Mac" did not have to clean up afterward. Many people pitched in to help clean and make the church ready for services the next day. Appreciation is expressed to "Mr. Mac", not only from the church family, but from others who use the facilities from time to time. He's a "Prince of a Fellow," as the decorations and theme proclaimed.

Devotional Materials Available

Three devotional booklets, of differing types are available to our readers:

FAMILY DEVOTIONS is a "daily guide for families with school-age children." Issued bi-monthly. Single copy, 20c; ten or more copies to one address, 15c each. Yearly subscriptions (6 issues), \$1.00. Send orders to Eden Publishing House, 1724

ter the concern of "Together in Ministry." Dates, July 25-31.

Then there's JUNIOR and JUNIOR HIGH CAMP at Roosevelt State Park, Pine Mountain, Ga., Aug. 8-14. A great time for children and youth!



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

MARCH 5, 1971

Participate With Others
In Your Community

Brookmeade Success Story

Nashville, Tenn., is finally recognizing Brookmeade Church as a successful part of its church community. Twice in the past three months the church buildings have been burglarized, along with "the best churches in town." The first time the pastor's typewriter was stolen, but the second time the burglars found nothing to their liking.

If the "break-ins" were efforts of the same burglar, two conclusions might be drawn: 1. theft of the typewriter indicates that he is literate; therefore, 2. he should read our financial statements near the end of the year and realize that he had little likelihood of finding money here!

We're not overlooking any means of evangelism either. Notes inviting said burglar to worship on Sunday will be placed in the spots he checked for money.

—Pastor Donald Orander

Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo. 63103.

THESE DAYS is the new devotional magazine replacing DAILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE. Produced on an ecumenical basis with United Presbyterians and Southern Presbyterians, it, too, is published bi-monthly. Single yearly subscriptions, \$1.50 each. Order (or get information on quantity rates) from: THESE DAYS, Subscription Department, 130 S. Juniper St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19107.

THE FELLOWSHIP OF PRAYER is of particular interest for Lenten reading. The 1971 theme is "Looking at Jesus." 15c per copy singly or in quantity. Order from Eden Publishing House, 1724 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo. 63103.



"Love Story" From New Hope

The above photo taken recently at New Hope Church, Clio, Alabama, suggests a unique love story. Photographer Huston C. Dutton, on the faculty of the School for the Deaf, Talladega, Ala., is also the fiance of Catherine Hogler (front row, left). Catherine, who was recently graduated from the Talladega school and who is now employed at a beauty salon in nearby Ozark, won the heart of Huston, her teacher. They have made plans to be married. Catherine is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harmon Hogler of Louisville, Ala., and is a member of New Hope Church.

On the fourth Sunday of each month, Russell Teal (front row, right), a lay member, conducts the service. Although they are without a full-time pastor, the New Hope congregation remains active. Their reporter, Mrs. Bennett Teal, writes, "New Hope plans to go forward in 1971. We must all keep in mind how wonderful is our opportunity to serve Him!"

Lanett CC Enters Rebuilt Sanctuary

A Christmas Cantata, "Night of Miracles," by John W. Peterson, was presented Sunday morning, December 20, at the Lanett Congregational Christian Church. The choir, under the direction of Mrs. James A. Longshore, is composed of the following: Mrs. J. C. White, Mrs. Julia Jones, Mrs. Don Horne, Miss Nonnie Looser, Mrs. A. D. Harry, Mrs. Gwen Holley, Mrs. W. Walter Hall, Mrs. Norma Spragins, Mrs. George Fetner, Mrs. H. G. Ellerbee, A. D. Harry, Randal Penn and Lawrence Moncus. The choir was assisted by the Junior Choir composed of Dale Edwards, Lynn Horne, Cathy Oliver, Steve Welch, Ted Edwards, Randal Hand, Edward Hall, Jeffery Longshore and John Hall. Miss Frances Schofield played the piano and Miss Pacita Harry the organ.

With the installation of new pews completed, the week before, the congregation returned to the sanctuary on Sunday, Dec. 20, 1970, for the first time since it was destroyed by fire on May 19, 1969.

Talk can arouse,
but of itself
it cannot heal.

To listen —
truly listen —
is to begin
the healing process
a wounded nation needs.

Listen to the wind.
Listen to the birds.
Listen to the trees.
Be still,
and listen to your God.

Above all, listen to
your own conscience.
This is the beginning
of listening.

Then —
listen to one person.
Even for five minutes.
Each day.

If each of us in the
United States listened
with all his might
for just 5 minutes each day,
wouldn't we be
a healthier nation for it?

HERE AND THERE

LANGDALE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH recently sent \$90 to the Southeast Conference office to pay for the 90 subscriptions to *Southeast News* being sent to active and resident members.

Paul M. McNutt, well-known recording artist and song evangelist from Kansas City and known as America's "Psalm Singer," appeared in Sacred Concert at the LANGDALE CHURCH recently.

Not to be outdone by Langdale, FIRST CHURCH, NASHVILLE, also sends *Southeast News* to resident members.

PILGRIM CHURCH, CHATTANOOGA, has a Church Study Committee which will help the congregation understand their mission and purpose. The Committee has prepared a comprehensive questionnaire which members will study.

MOUNTAIN GROVE CHURCH, HANCEVILLE, ALA., has Rev. George A. Fidler as their Supply Minister. Recently the church issued a Report Booklet for 1968-70 and the Directory of Members for 1971. The picture of the new church building appears on the cover; on the inside is the picture of the building which preceded it. There is also a running record of events in the life of the church and its people month by month.

If you want a copy of the Report and Directory, write to Mountain Grove Congregational Christian Church, P. O. Box 332, Hanceville, Ala. 35077.

Representatives of BROOKMEADE, HOWARD and FIRST churches, Nashville, are preparing three joint Lenten observances. They also will publish a daily Lenten devotional booklet, prepared by the lay people of the three churches.

THE OFFICE OF COMMUNICATION, U.C.C., led by Dr. Everett Parker, has provided the technical assistance to get the Federal Communications Commission to award temporary operation of WLBT-TV, Jackson, Mississippi, to an inter-racial, non-profit corporation called Communication Improvement, Inc. The decision marks the culmination of six years of litigation to revoke the license of WLBT-TV because of its failure to serve black interests in the Jackson area.

What this country needs is a good 5-minute listener. You!

(from *Lay Leaders Bulletin*)

THE SOUTHEAST NEWS
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INVEST IN LOVE



One great hour of sharing & SOS.

**United Church of Christ
including our work through
Church World Service**

Invest In Love Through OGHS-SOS

In the wake of a disastrous cyclone in East Pakistan in November 1970, 500,000 persons were dead and more than a million were homeless. This was crowded out by accounts of recovery being made in Peru where a few months before a mud avalanche created by a violent earthquake covered towns and villages.

When such calamities occur, people around the world volunteer help. But coordinating such responses into action takes time; help is needed immediately!

Hours after the Peruvian quake, OGHS-SOS money was purchasing needed supplies in Peru to aid victims. Hours after the tidal wave swept East Pakistan — even before a report could be received from Church World Service in Pakistan — OGHS-SOS money and materials were ministering to the hurt.

Such immediate response requires some funds reserved for emergency use. The amount of aid that can be immediately administered depends upon the generosity of Christian people who can provide ahead of time for disasters.

What investment could be more appropriate for Christian people? Be sure your church is planning to invest in love through the One Great Hour of Sharing — Share Our Substance, Lenten offering, suggested for SUNDAY, MARCH 21. Promotional materials can be obtained free of charge from the Stewardship Council, United Church of Christ, 1505 Race St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19102.

Prayer On Growing Old

Lord, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful but not moody; helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all, but Thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end. Amen.

—from Florida News, Jan. 1971